(b) by when decision is likely to be taken on these applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) IDBI has reported that there are two term loan proposals of cooperative spinning mills in Maharashtra pending with financial institutions. Decision on these proposals is expected to be taken shortly.

Textile mills lying closed in the country

1953. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be *pleased to state:*

(a) what is the number of textile mills lying closed in the country at present;

(b) what is the number of such mills which belong to the NTC;

(c) what is the number of workers who have become jobless due to the closing down of these mills; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to safeguard the interests of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Seventy four cotton Textile Mills were closed as at the end of July, 1986.

(b) The number of such NTC owned/managed mills is three.

(c) The number of workers affected is 103259.

(d) A rehabilitation Fund has been created to provide interim relief to workers rendered unemployed due to permanent closure of textile mills. According to this scheme, a displaced worker will get a tapering amount for three years, at the rate of 75 per cent of the wage equivalent in the first year, 50 per cent in the second year and 25 per cent in the third year.

Tax holiday enjoyed by Free Trade Zone units

1954. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the five year tax holiday currently being enjoyed by units in the free trade zones (FTZs) is proposed to be extended for another three years; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No Sir. However the present tax holiday of five consecutive years has been proposed to be permitted to be chosen out of the initial eight assessment years commencing from the assessment year relating to the previous year in which such concerns commence manufacture or production.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening of a Regional Office of L.I.C. in Andhra Pradesh

1955. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Southern Regional Office of the Life Insurance Corporation is at present located at Madras and the policyholders of Andhra Pradesh have to depend upon this Office for redressal of their grievances;

(b) whether the Corporation has any plan to open a Regional Office in Hyderabad or in any other town of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be set up and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The Life Insurance Corporation of India has its Southern Zonal Office located at present at Madras. The Divisional and Branch Offices of LIC in Andhra Pradesh come under the administrative jurisdiction of the Southern Zonal Office. The Zonal Office, however, is not an operating office but a controlling office to monitor the performance of the Divisions. The servicing of policyholders is done mainly by the Branch Offices and, to a small extent, by the Divisional Offices of the LIC. The LIC has 98 Branch Offices and 5 Divisional Offices in Andhra Pradesh to attend to the needs of the policyholders.

LIC does not have for the present any plan to open a new Zonal Office in Andhra Pradesh. The matter, however, will be reviewed when found necessary.

Illegal transfer of Dollars from India

1956. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned 'Illegal outflow' which appeared in the Weekly 'New Age' of the 6th July, 1986;

(b) whether it is a fact that 10,000 million dollars have gone out of India during the last 10 years through illegal transfers; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to check such illegal transfers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government is alive to the problem of foreign exchange racketeering. It is, however, not possible to ascertain the exact amount of capital which has gone out of India through illegal channels. The Enforcement Directorate (FERA) remains vigilant in this regard and takes appropriate action under the F.E.R.Act and also for preventive detention under the COFEPOSA, against such racketeers. The drive against such unauthorised transactions is a continuous process and the matter is kept under constant review for taking appropriate administrative/legislative measures with a view to curbing the same.

Beneficiaries under Differential Rate of Interest Scheme

1957. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total number of beneficiaries under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme launched in 1972 with the objective of helping "the weakest of the weak" and the total number of loan disbursed under the Scheme by the end of 1985, the amount due for recovery and the actual recovery to date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): As per the data available from Reserve Bank of India, the disbursement made during the quarter ended June, 1985, was Rs. 4216.17 lakhs in 378484 accounts. As at the end of June, 1985, the amount outstanding under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) advances was Rs. 452.02 crores in 43.09 lakh borrowal accounts. The amount due for recovery, including current demand and old arrears was Rs. 17288.88 lakhs and the actual recovery made was Rs. 4280.18 lakhs during the April-June, 1985 quarter.